

The Greatest Attraction: Missouri Public Libraries

In FY2014, the number of annual visitors to Missouri public libraries exceeded the *combined* attendance to many of the state's other major attractions.

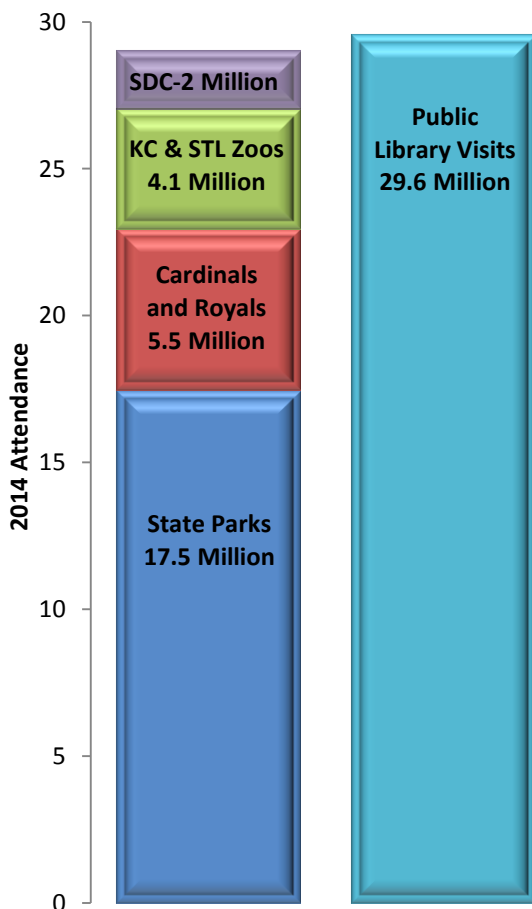
Public Library Visitors	29.6 million
State Park Visitors	17.5 million
Cardinals and Royals Baseball	5.5 million
St. Louis & Kansas City Zoo's	4.1 million
Silver Dollar City	2 million

Nearly **5.5 million** Missourians (91.4% of the state's population) have access and use the 362 public library outlets. The combined total number of Walmart outlets (142, including Walmart, Supercenter, and Neighborhood Markets) and the total number of Walgreen's pharmacies (216) are fewer than the number libraries available to Missouri citizens.

Missouri citizens used the over 4,900 public library computers approximately **6.4 million** times in FY2014. On average, each computer is used nearly 1,300 times per year to apply for employment, access information, complete homework or research, and connect with others. Ninety-seven percent of public libraries provide a high-speed connection for their patrons.

Summer reading programs enhance student achievement and prevent fall-off of reading skills during summer break. Summer reading programs had 287,570 youth and teen participants at public and school libraries. Furthermore, 46,817 Children's programs were conducted at Missouri public libraries in FY2014, with a total attendance of 1.65 million children.

Attendance data was attained from attraction websites, data requests, Digital Inclusion Survey, and the Departments of Conservation and Natural Resources publications. Library data is from the FY2014 Public Library Survey.



Missouri Public Libraries Add Up-2014

General Information

Population in Library Districts	5,476,144
Library Card Holders	3,288,849
Library Outlets	362
Bookmobiles	27
Total Paid Staff (FTE)	3,140

Library Materials

Books and Magazines	16,795,429
Audios	983,276
Videos	1,126,986

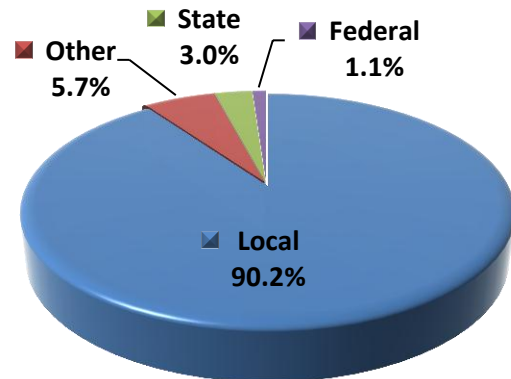
Internet Access

Total number of public Internet access computers	4,944
Annual usage	6,376,873
Average use of each computer	1,290
Wireless Sessions On patron and library devices	1,306,989

Activity

Visits to Library Outlets	29,582,712
Reference Questions Answered	3,591,061
Total Circulation	55,720,384
Children's Materials Circulation	18,426,175
Attendance at Children's Programs	1,646,657

Annual Funding in Missouri for
Public Library Services



Local

\$223,182,602

Property tax, sales tax

Other

\$14,231,411

Private grants, donations

State

\$7,417,255

Which includes:

State Aid: Per Capita and Equalization	\$3,504,001
REAL Program	\$3,109,250
Athlete and Entertainer Tax	\$804,004

Federal

\$2,727,005

IMLS-LSTA state programs and other Federal grants received by libraries

Total Library Funding

\$247,558,273

Data compiled from FY14 Public Library Survey and State
Library Distributions.

